

Proposed Changes to 85-1-.02 (adding of HIV testing)

writing two days of said commission meeting.

(7) **Boxers.** Boxers applying to be licensed in Georgia shall meet the following requirements:

(a) **Head Injury.** The commission will not issue a professional boxer's license to any person

when the commission has reason to believe that such person has previously been diagnosed with or has suffered sub-dural hematoma or any level of intra-cerebral hemorrhage.

1. Each boxer knows or should know his or her medical history and is in a better position to protect themselves against permanent brain damage than the evaluating commission or examining physician. It is the absolute obligation of any boxer who has previously suffered any head injury as described in subparagraph 7(a) above to report that injury to the physician conducting the pre-fight physical.

(b) **General Physical Evidencing Good Physical Health.** Applications to be licensed as a

boxer shall be accompanied by a signed statement from a licensed physician that the applicant is in good physical health, has no abnormalities, or deficiencies which would prevent athletic competition or endanger the applicant's health when engaging in athletic competition.

1. **Neurological Examination.** Any boxer who has competed in over 200 rounds during his or her professional career must submit such additional proof of neurological fitness as specified in Rule 4.01(a) [Medical Requirements].

2. **Ophthalmological Examination.** Any boxer who has competed in over 200 rounds during his or her professional boxing career must submit additional proof of ophthalmological fitness as specified in Rule 4.01 (b) [Medical Requirements].

3. **Hepatitis Testing and HIV Testing.** All contestants in all bouts shall complete testing for

Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C and HIV. The initial test for Hepatitis B ~~and~~ Hepatitis C , and HIV

detection shall be conducted within 180 days prior to licensure. In addition to the pre-licensure test, any boxer shall be re-tested for Hepatitis B ~~and~~ Hepatitis C , and HIV prior to his or her participation in each boxing match in the state if the match is scheduled to occur more than 180 days after the date of the most recent test results submitted to the commission.

(i) Any contestant who tests positive ~~for Hepatitis B~~ may appeal the denial of a license by submitting a verifiable doctor's written statement, on the doctor's letterhead stationary, ~~that the Hepatitis is non-contagious~~. The appeal will be presented to the commission during their next regularly

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scheduled meeting at which time the commission will vote to sustain or override the initial denial.

4. **Age Restrictions.** Applicants for a boxer's license shall be no more than 37

years of age, provided however that the commission may, in its discretion, issue a license to an applicant-boxer who is more than 37 years of age and who submits satisfactory evidence that his or her health, ability and physical condition is sufficient to ensure the applicant's safety. Such medical evidence shall include, but is not limited to:

(i) A detailed dilated ophthalmological examination, conducted by a state licensed ophthalmologist. The intent of this examination is to assure both the